

# Courier

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stories.

## County responds with hurricane relief

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Fairfax County employees responded in various ways to local and national needs in the devastated Gulf Coast area. The county's Alternate Emergency Operations Center has served as the hub for planning and coordination in

responding to area requests for assistance.

Shortly after the storm left its wake of destruction, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue

Virginia Task Force 1 was mobilized and deployed to Mississippi. VATF-1, a unique response team composed of county Fire & Rescue employees and civilian

*See Hurricanes, page 2*



Mike Wood (left) and Bill MacKay prepare to depart with the team.

*All Fairfax Reads attracts a huge crowd*

## Flying high

"I am honored to be here for what was just a little dream in my head a few years back," said **Khaled Hosseini**, author of "The Kite Runner," to an overflow audience of 2,100 at the Center for the Arts Concert Hall on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University on Sept. 20. The free event was the final program in the second annual All Fairfax Reads initiative sponsored by the Fairfax County Public Library.

All Fairfax Reads is modeled on the  
*See Hosseini, page 3*

*Fire Prevention Week Oct. 9 - 15*

## Care with candles

Battling home fires before they start in Fairfax County is the goal of the Fire & Rescue Department during Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 9 - 15. Stations throughout the county will host activities that will educate and raise awareness of key fire safety issues and help citizens prevent fires and injuries, especially at home.

Many people do not realize that they are at greater danger from fire in their homes than anywhere else. There are safeguards residents can employ for a safer home

*See Fire Prevention, page 4*

**Hurricanes, from page 1**

specialists that receives federal funding for federally directed deployments, performed search and rescue tasks in the days following the storm. The 34-person team was led by Captain **Joe Knerr**, Fairfax County Fire &



**The team was briefed in the AEOC.**

Rescue Department. VATF-1 returned Sept. 6 only to be redeployed to Virginia Beach in anticipation of Hurricane Ophelia. This 80-person task force was led by Fire & Rescue Assistant Chief **Dave Rohr**. On Sept. 21, for the third time in three weeks, VATF-1 was activated and deployed to Fort Worth, Tx., to stage for Hurricane Rita. The 34-person task force is again being led by Knerr.



**Craig Gerhart talks to the media.**

**Craig Gerhart**, Prince William County executive. The team is assisting with emergency operations in the New Orleans area.

Four additional county people joined the team that included **Jeff Smithberger**, DPWES, and **Dana Paige**, DFS.

Later, a second multijurisdictional team was deployed that included Fairfax County's **Suzanne Devlin**, Police, and **Ray Pylant**, DPWES. A third 18-member multijurisdictional team, headed by Fairfax County Deputy Executive **Rob Stalzer** departed Sept. 26. Included were **Raul Castillo**, Fire & Rescue, **Daryl Louder**, Fire & Rescue, **John Caussin**, Fire & Rescue, **Roy Shrout**, OEM, **Tom Ryan**, Fire & Rescue, **Len Wales**, DMB, and **John Fout**, Internal Audit.

In addition, the Northern Virginia Fire

The county also participated in several additional deployments. The county's **Bill MacKay**, Office of Emergency Management, and **Mike Wood**, Fire & Rescue, joined a 10-person multi-jurisdictional deployment headed by

Chiefs Regional Coalition provided a 50-person team to Mississippi including 20 Fairfax County firefighters and 15 other department members to support the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and International Association of Fire Fighters contingencies.

Closer to home, several county agencies have been busy providing support and resources as required. This may be only a partial list as more county resources are called upon for assistance in the days to come.

- ♦ The Department of Family Services has helped more than 480 people who have applied with the agency for assistance.

- ♦ The Health Department immunized evacuees coming from and volunteers going to the Gulf Coast area, identified a 25-person staff that is standing by for future deployment and started registering volunteers from the Fairfax Medical Reserve Corps to work with the Red Cross as required.

- ♦ Housing and Community Development is assisting families and individuals impacted by Hurricane Katrina who need help with housing needs. The department also is working with the school system to get children into schools.

- ♦ The Office of Public Affairs created a county Web site where employees and residents can keep up-to-date on county responses, and find ways to make contributions and donations. The office also manages a hotline at 703-817-7771, TTY 711, with current information.

- ♦ The Library is helping displaced people find information and providing entertainment and educational activities for families.

- ♦ Purchasing and Supply Management has tapped into its extensive network of vendors as sources for emergency response support in the stricken areas.

By the time *Courier* is printed, the results of yet another massive storm will be known. The county may be asked to provide even more help to those in the Gulf Coast areas.

For up-to-date information on hurricane impact status, go to the county Web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/katrina](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/katrina) or call the hotline at 703-817-7771, TTY 711. ■



**Hosseini, from page 1**

more than 100 one book/one community programs throughout the U.S. Such programs often bring diverse communities together through shared reading. Residents in Fairfax County were encouraged to read "The Kite Runner" this summer, creating a kind of community-wide book club.

Hosseini's novel is the tale of a friendship between an Afghan boy and a servant's son that begins in the era before the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. It continues through the rise of the Taliban and moves to the Afghan-American immigrant community in California. The book is also an intricately woven story of betrayal, redemption and a father-son relationship.

"The Kite Runner" has topped best-seller lists for more than a year. When a committee chaired by **Katie Strotman**, director of the library's Center for the Book, chose the novel for the 2005 All Fairfax Reads last winter, it had not begun achieving word-of-mouth popularity yet.

"When I read Hosseini's book last year, I knew immediately 'The Kite Runner' would appeal to many people. With Afghanistan in the news and the universal themes of friendship, family and betrayal, it touches people on so many different levels," Strotman says of the book's selection. From the moment the book was announced last May to Hosseini's recent visit, the library's more than 350 copies of "The Kite Runner" have never stopped being checked out, with a waiting list of others who also want to read the book.

Its universal appeal is evident in the more than 2,100 people from a variety of backgrounds who jammed into GMU's Center for the Arts to hear the author. Latecomers watched Hosseini's presentation on a screen on the C-SPAN mobile TV studio parked outside the Center while the network taped the event for its "Book TV" show. The crowds of enthusiastic readers temporarily thwarted Board of Supervisors Chairman **Gerald E. Connolly**, who was scheduled to introduce Hosseini. Caught in a traffic jam, he jumped out of his car and walked to the center while his wife parked. Library Director **Sam Clay**,

who was escorting Hosseini to the event, also found himself snarled in traffic until GMU security staff were able to escort them in.

The diverse audience included members of book clubs, busloads from senior centers and churches, as well as Afghan-Americans. After Hosseini came to the podium, he asked how many Afghan-Americans were in the audience and then spoke to them in their native language. He wondered aloud how many Fairfax residents were Afghan; according to **Anne Cahill** of the county's Department of Systems Management for Human Services, there were more than 5,000 people of Afghan descent in Fairfax County as of the 2000 Census.

The author shared his own life story: first as an Afghan and then as an immigrant. He described his youth in Afghanistan's capital, Kabul, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, when it was a thriving and cosmopolitan city. Writers, poets and artists often visited the home of his parents. He explained the various regime changes in Afghanistan and how they affected his family. When his diplomat father was transferred to Paris in 1976 for a four-year assignment, the family packed some belongings, little realizing it would be 27 years before any member of the family would return to their native country. After the Soviets invaded Afghanistan in 1980, Hosseini's father applied for political asylum in the U.S. and the author became an immigrant at 15. His well-educated parents became a driving school instructor and a beautician to help their children get an education. Hosseini went to college and medical school, but began writing again after he became a practicing physician. "The Kite Runner" evolved from a short story he wrote when he heard the Taliban had banned kite flying.

All Fairfax Reads helped spread the word of this book to the county's enthusiastic reading community. - by Pat Bangs, Library ■

*"I'm interested in human stories," Hosseini said near the end of his talk. "Thanks for reading this book."*

*His thanks may be misplaced; Hosseini created a gem that is part autobiography and part tribute to the resilience of the human spirit.*

**Khaled Hosseini**

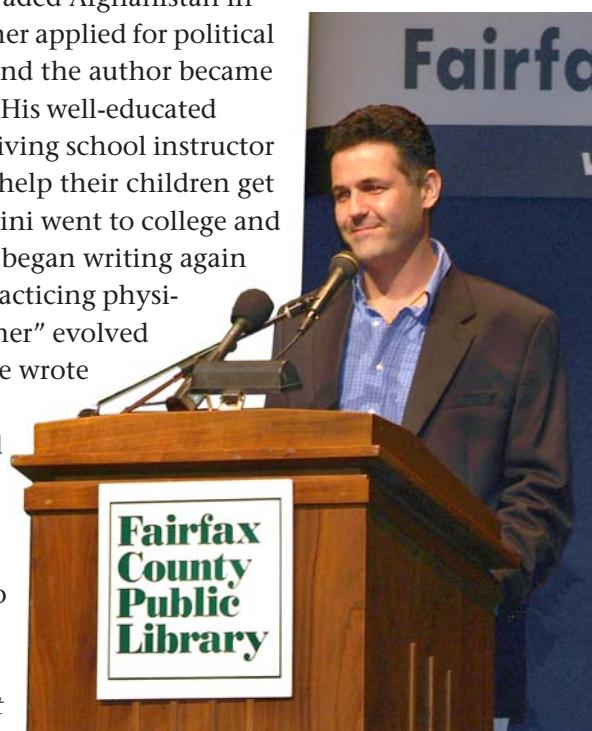


Photo by Lorrie Bennett, Library

**Careful with candles  
- a lesson during  
Fire Prevention Week  
Oct. 9 - 15**

**Fire Prevention, from page 1**

environment. Fire Prevention Week is the time to reach out to the community one-on-one, teaching people of every age how to prevent fires. This year, the focus will be on candle fires, a serious and growing part of the fire problem.

All 35 Fire & Rescue stations throughout the county will participate in the Fire Prevention Week Open House, Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stations will have displays and activities that highlight fire safety and burn prevention.

The 2005 National Fire Protection Associa-

tion theme is "Use Candles with Care." Firefighters and paramedics will be providing information on:

- ♦ Ensuring homes are equipped with working smoke alarms.
- ♦ Properly caring for smoke

and maintaining alarms.

- ♦ Knowing "what to do" when the alarm sounds.

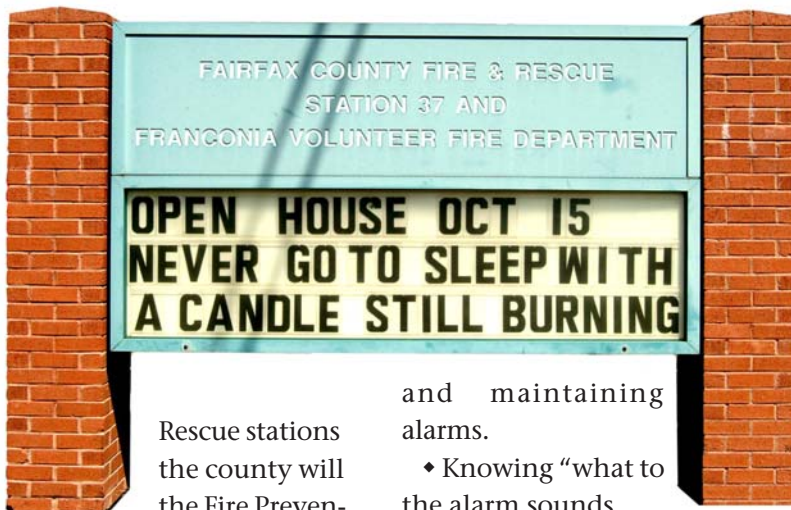
Stations also will have displays and activities on a variety of safety initiatives including seasonal fire safety, emergency preparedness and burn prevention.

For 83 years, Fire Prevention Week, sponsored by the NFPA, is proclaimed by the President of the United States. Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department and other fire departments in the U.S. and Canada traditionally participate in this premier fire safety program.

NFPA selected the 2005 Fire Prevention Week theme to highlight a growing home fire concern. The theme, "Use Candles with Care: When you go out, blow out!" is a memorable and effective safety message. Home candle fires have risen steadily over the last decade.

In addition to using candles safely, county residents are urged to ensure that smoke alarms are installed on every level of the home and kept working with monthly testing and annual battery replacement, usually when daylight savings time ends in October. After 10 years, all smoke alarms should be replaced with a new unit. Each member of the household should know the fire escape plan and all should practice it twice a year. Fairfax County residents can learn more about candle safety and all forms of fire prevention by visiting NFPA's official Fire Prevention Week Web site:

[www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org).



Rescue stations the county will the Fire Preven-

tion Week Open House, Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stations will have displays and activities that highlight fire safety and burn prevention.

**2005 Career Firefighter of the Year**

Lieutenant **William M. Best Jr.** has been selected by the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department as the 2005 Career Firefighter of the Year. A 12-year veteran of the department, he is assigned to the Fair Oaks Fire & Rescue Station 21, A-Shift.

Best started the Fire & Rescue Support Team (FiRST) program to assist firefighters and their families during an emergency or crisis. The FiRST program has made a positive impact on the lives of many employees and families and has been used as a model within the fire service community, both nationally and internationally.

Best also serves as a Rescue Squad Officer with Virginia Task Force One, part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the United States Agency for International Development program. He has been deployed overseas as an expert in structural collapse and rescue techniques.

Established in 1985, the Firefighter of the Year is the department's highest award to provide special recognition for outstanding service and dedication. ■



Lt. William M. Best Jr.

## Focus on Benefits

# Deferred compensation makes saving convenient and affordable

As announced in the Aug. 19 *Courier*, employees will soon have a new deferred compensation provider, Nationwide Retirement Solutions, along with a variety of new investment options from which to choose. If you are not saving money for retirement through deferred compensation, now is the time to start! With numerous investment options, provider choices and low administrative fees, the Fairfax County Deferred Compensation Plan offers an affordable and convenient vehicle in which to invest for your retirement. You can begin saving by contributing as little as \$10 per pay period!

The following charts show existing deferred compensation funds that will be replaced, the funds that will replace them and new funds that have been added to each provider's fund lineup.

Assets held in the existing funds will automatically be mapped to the applicable replacement funds as of Nov. 1.

Generally speaking, new enrollments and contribution change requests received by the Benefits Division become effective the first available pay date in the month following receipt of your form. The Benefits Division recommends that you mail your forms directly to DHR, Suite 270 or fax your forms to 703-802-8795.

Current participants should take note that beginning in November, a new rule will apply for processing provider-to-provider transfer requests.

Under the new rule, provider-to-provider transfer request forms will be submitted for processing as soon as they are received in good order. There will no longer be a fixed deadline for submitting your request to DHR. Correct transfers will be completed within five business days.

New deferred compensation enrollment, change and transfer forms will be available on Oct. 1. If you have any questions on how you can begin participating in deferred compensation, or how to make changes to your deferred compensation accounts, contact the Financial Services Help Desk at 703-324-4995, TTY 711, or visit one of the Open Enrollment meetings that will be held later this fall. Dates and times of these meetings will be published in a future issue of the *Courier*. ■

## Replacement Funds – Effective as of November 1, 2005

Provider	Existing Fund	Replacement Fund
AIG-VALIC	Templeton World A	American Funds EuroPacific Gr R3
AIG-VALIC	Vanguard Total Bond Market Index	PIMCO Total Return Adm
AIG-VALIC	Janus Sm Cap Value Inv	Wells Fargo Advantage Small Cap Value Z
AIG-VALIC	Dreyfus Premier Future Leaders A	Wells Fargo Advantage Small Cap Value Z
AIG-VALIC	Vanguard 500 Index	S&P 500 Flagship Fund D
AIG-VALIC	Franklin Temp Conservative Target A	Wells Fargo Outlook Today A
AIG-VALIC	Franklin Temp Moderate Target A	Wells Fargo 2010 A
AIG-VALIC	AIG VALIC Unallocated Fixed Account	Wells Fargo Stable Value
ICMA-RC	Vantagepoint International	VT Fidelity Diversified International
ICMA-RC	Vantagepoint Core Bond Index II	American Fund Bond Fund R4
ICMA-RC	Vantagepoint Equity Income	Hotchkis & Wiley Large Cap Val I
ICMA-RC	Vantagepoint Growth	VT Fidelity Contrafund
ICMA-RC	Vantagepoint Growth and Income	Legg Mason Value FI
ICMA-RC	Vantagepoint Aggressive Opportunities	Delaware American Services I
ICMA-RC	Vantagepoint 500 Stock Index II	Vanguard Institutional Index
ICMA-RC	Vantagepoint Broad Market Index II	Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Admiral
ICMA-RC	Vantagepoint Asset Allocation	Vantagepoint Model Port Traditional Growth

## New Funds Available as of November 1, 2005

Provider	Fund Type	Fund
AIG-VALIC	Target Date/Lifecycle	Wells Fargo Outlook 2020 A, 2030 A, 2040 A
AIG-VALIC	Money Market	Am Cent Gov't. Agency MM
ICMA-RC	U.S. Equity – Small	Royce Premier Financial Intermediary
ICMA-RC	Target Date/Lifecycle	Vantagepoint Milestone Inc., Vantagepoint Milestone 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	Foreign/International	JP Morgan International Eq S
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	U.S. Bonds	Western Asset Core Plus Bd FI
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	U.S. Equity – Large	Van Kampen Growth and Inc A
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	U.S. Equity – Large	T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Adv
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	U.S. Equity – Mid	ABN AMRO Mid Cap N
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	U.S. Equity – Small	Oppenheimer Main St SmCap A
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	Index	State Street Equity 500 Index Svc
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	Target Date/Lifecycle	Fidelity Freedom Inc A, Fidelity Freedom 2005 A, 2010 A, 2015 A, 2020 A, 2025 A, 2030 A, 2035 A, 2040 A
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	Stable Value	Galliard Stable Value
T. Rowe Price	Target Date/Lifecycle	TRP Retirement Income, TRP Retirement 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040



## National Mental Illness Awareness Week is Oct. 2 – 8

The Board of Supervisors proclaimed Oct. 2 - 8 as Mental Illness Awareness Week (MIAW) in Fairfax County to promote greater understanding throughout the community and urge all residents to increase their awareness of serious and persistent mental illness. In conjunction with the proclamation, the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, in partnership with several private organizations, is planning the sixth annual Mental Illness Awareness Week Conference on Sept. 30 at the Fairview Marriott Hotel.

MIAW is sponsored by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and is an annual, national observance that was created by presidential proclamation in 1990 to focus attention on the high incidence of mental illness in America. During MIAW, millions of Americans will be honoring the challenges

encountered by people with mental illness as well as celebrating the recoveries. Many barriers remain that delay recovery and communities must work together to identify and break the barriers to appropriate community treatment for people with serious mental illness.

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board serves the community as the public agency responsible for planning, organizing and providing services to people who have a mental illness, mental retardation or a substance use disorder. Programs are directly operated or provided by private organizations and are licensed by the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services. The CSB is part of the Fairfax County Human Services System. ■



SMILE...

personal property  
taxes and vehicle  
decals purchases  
are due  
**Oct. 5.**

Pay online at  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/  
dta/payinfo.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/payinfo.htm)

## Uniformed Retirement System to elect board members

The Uniformed Retirement System Board of Trustees election will be held Oct. 3-6. The nominees for the position are incumbent Master Deputy Sheriff **Charles Formeck** and Deputy Sheriff PFC **Arthur Leeper**. The person elected will serve a four-year term, beginning in November, with meetings the fourth Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.

Voting is limited to members of the Uniformed Retirement System who are Animal Control

Officers, Helicopter Pilots and sworn employees of the Office of the Sheriff. Payroll contacts can answer questions about membership.

Voting instructions, locations and campaign statements have been distributed through department payroll contacts. Election results will be determined on Oct. 7 and the winner announced in the Oct. 28 *Courier*.

For more information, call **Bob Fitzpatrick** at 703-324-3306, TTY 711. ■

### **MDS Charles E. Formeck**, *Office of the Sheriff*

I have been the Office of the Sheriff, Animal Control and Helicopter Pilots representative on the Uniformed Retirement Board for the past 12 years. During this time, I have worked to improve benefits and develop a new funding method for our system. During the benefit changes to plans C and D, I made sure those of you who wanted to stay in the old A and B plans had that choice. I have helped members in buying prior service, assisted with the development and education of DROP and have been available for your questions. I will continue to be your voice and represent your interests in a professional manner if re-elected. ■

### **PFC Arthur J. Leeper**, *Office of the Sheriff*

I have been employed with the Office of the Sheriff for eight years and as such, am as interested in the Uniformed Retirement System as you. I have been a member of the county Employee Advisory Council. I supported the Deferred Retirement Program and lobbied for increased retired health care. Ensuring that retired pay keeps pace with the cost-of-living is a paramount responsibility of the trustees. I believe the retirement board needs to actively support issues that affect retirees. I will also work hard to keep all members of the retirement system informed about what your trustees are doing. ■

## Briefs

**Giving the boot**

Fairfax County firefighters collected \$581,058 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association during the Labor Day weekend Fill the Boot campaign. It appears the county Fire & Rescue Department led all fire departments nationally. An additional \$119,516 will go to the International Association of Fire Fighters Disaster Relief Fund in support of Hurricane Katrina. All three shifts participated in this effort.

**Improv performers coming**

October is Disability Employment Awareness Month, and the county will be celebrating the 15th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. To celebrate, the Office of Equity Programs has invited the Mental Health Players, an improv group, to provide an educational performance on Thursday, Oct. 6, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Conference Rooms 2/3 of the Gov-

ernment Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway. To promote mental health, these talented individuals use improvisation through role

**Strategy Tip**

As part of the new Fairfax County Communication Strategy, requests for Channel 16 or FCTN production services are now made on a quarterly basis by completing the Request for Communication Assistance form, found on the Infoweb at [infoweb/cex/commstrategy/resources/requestform.htm](http://infoweb/cex/commstrategy/resources/requestform.htm). Be sure to complete and submit the form by December for programs you would like to air in January, February or March. For more information, contact the Communications Productions Division at 703-324-5930, TTY 711 or the Office of Public Affairs at 703-324-3187, TTY 711.

playing to depict conflicts in everyday life. To enroll, request reasonable ADA accommodations or more information, contact the Office of Equity Programs at 703-324-2207, TTY 703-222-5494, or e-mail [OEPTTraining@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:OEPTTraining@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**First Friday begins again**

All county employees are invited to the fall kickoff of the First Fridays meetings. This is an opportunity to hear and ask questions of Tony Griffin, county executive and his

## Briefs

leadership team. The Oct. 7 meeting, sponsored by the Department of Finance, will be held from 8:30 - 10 a.m. in Conference Rooms 2/3 of the

Government Center. If you can't attend, you can e-mail a question online at <http://infoweb/cex/firstfridays>. For more information, contact the Office of Public Affairs at 703-324-3187, TTY 711.

**Planning and Zoning**

Two public meetings will focus on proposed zoning ordinance changes to

setbacks, building heights, minimum lot widths, fence heights, deck screenings and patios. The Oct. 6 meeting is at 7:30 p.m., in Conference Rooms 9/10 of the Government Center while On Oct. 11, the meeting is at 7:30 p.m. at Braddock Hall (Kings Park Library), 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke.

For additional information, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/minyard.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/minyard.htm) or contact the Department of Planning and Zoning at 703-324-1314, TTY 711, or [OrdAdmin@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:OrdAdmin@fairfaxcounty.gov). ■

**Sept. 15 through Oct. 15 is Hispanic Heritage Month**

The Board of Supervisors designated Sept. 15 - Oct. 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month in Fairfax County, noting that more than 35 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino American in the 2000 census. Hispanic Americans contribute to our society in government, business, industry, armed forces, agriculture, science,



sports and the arts. People of Hispanic heritage are a growing segment of the nation's population and are the largest minority group in the United States.

Members of the Department of Family Services helped promote Hispanic Heritage Month with a display in the Government Center that illustrated people of Hispanic heritage and their accomplishments. Pictured, helping with the display are **Dan Dildine, Everludis Lopez, Gladys Castillo, Ina G. Fernandez, Maria D. Gonzales, Rosa Suau and Marie Elena Martinez**. Not pictured but helping with the exhibit are **Magda Alacon and Lucy Fletcher**. ■

# Typing shortcuts: Like putting words in your document"

If you are not much of a typist, here are two Word shortcuts that can save you a lot of time.

1. Word has an AutoCorrect feature that is meant to fix common spelling errors. Here is how you can take advantage of it.

If you find yourself constantly retyping the same phrases (e.g., Technical Support Center) you can do the following:

- ♦ While in Word, click on Tools and select AutoCorrect Options. Then press the AutoCorrect tab.
- ♦ Locate the entry box headed with "Replace:" and "With:". Type in a memorable shorthand abbreviation in the left column labeled "Replace:" (in this case I used "tsc1" so I could still use the acronym TSC. In the

column labeled "With:", on the right, type Technical Support Center and click Add (if you have other favorite phrases, you can add them now). Then click OK. Note: you can type up to 255 characters and spaces under the "With:" column.

♦ Return to the document, type tsc1 and hit the spacebar. Like magic, Technical Support Center appears.

Just be careful about your choice of shorthand abbreviations. For example, do not use "st" for student, or student may end up in your address labels (for street)!

2. While you are in AutoCorrect Options, press the AutoText tab.

In the entry box under "Enter AutoText entries here:" type your common phrases, (e.g., Fairfax

## Tech Tip #97

Department of Information Technology,  
Technical Infrastructure Division  
Technical Support Center,  
Fairfax County Government Center  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, VA 22035  
Tel: 703-222-3535, option1  
Fax: 703-222-3396  
TTY 711

County Government.) Press Add and OK. Note: you can type up to 255 characters and spaces.

Now back in the document, start typing fairfax..., the computer will display the entered phrase. Press Enter to insert.

Note: If you notice that you have been typing a phrase over and over again, highlight the phrase and then locate the AutoCorrect or AutoText tab. You will find your phrase in the required entry field. ■

## DPSCA graduates 10 students

The Department of Public Safety Communications Academy recently graduated 10 students. This is a mandatory eight-week class, teaching students the basic knowledge and application skills of call-taking procedures. The students are required

to pass weekly, state-mandated exams with a minimum score of 80 percent. At the completion of the eight-week academy, the students graduate with certificates of completion. Once they have graduated from the DPSCA the students move forward to their

assigned squads to continue a comprehensive on-the-job training program with a veteran trainer. Although employees complete the eight-week academy, the students continue to strive for the ultimate goal of being released from their trainer and obtain the title of a Public Safety Communicator I. ■



**Front row (left to right): Karen Magner, Deanna Head, Jennifer Rothwell, Christa Robinson, Maronda Lockhart, Erik Rhodes, Tracy Clark, Michelle Duckett (instructor). Second Row: Scott Pierpoint (instructor), Steve Landry, Doug Moroney, Marc Bielawski.**

<http://infoweb/courier>

**Courier**

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